

CYCLOCYSTOID-LIKE EDRIOASTERIODS FROM THE ORCHARD CREEK SHALE  
(U. ORD.) IN SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

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The Orchard Creek Shale in Southern Illinois contains an abundant and diverse echinoderm fauna including at least five genera of edrioasteroids, two of which resemble cyclocystoids. Cyclocystoides illinoisensis Miller and Gurley, 1895, and Cyclocystoides ornatus Savage, 1917, are synonymized under the name Savagella illinoisensis Miller and Gurley, 1895, and the genus and species is transferred from the cyclocystoids to the edrioasteroid family Isorophidae Bell, 1976. Cyclocystoid assignment was based on poorly preserved specimens in which the proximal circlet of the peripheral rim was misinterpreted as the submarginal ring of cyclocystoids. Edrioasteroid affinities are based on well developed ambulacral grooves, valvular anal structure, central oral frame, and hydropore structure. Two other isorophid genera are present. One of these is unique in that the interambulacral plates consist of loosely connected tack-like spines. The proximal circlet plates of the peripheral rim greatly resemble the cyclocystoid submarginal ring. The remaining edrioasteroids include a pyrgocystid and a new genus of Lebetodiscidae Bell, 1976.